## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing Rafia Zakaria.

Welch, Austin, Candelaria Reardon, Crouch, Dembowski, Dickinson, Duncan, Klinker, Lawson L, Mays, Noe, Pond, Richardson, Summers, Walorski

 , read first time and referred to Committee on





2007

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing Rafia Zakaria.

Whereas, Rafia Zakaria works tirelessly to improve the quality of life for women in Pakistan and South Asia;

Whereas, This improvement can occur only when the world is aware of the atrocities that befall women around the world:

Whereas, Women in Pakistan and South Asia face death through honor killing, a term used to refer to a killing whose predominant motive is to extinguish the source of dishonor to the family by killing the person responsible;

Whereas, Between 2000 and October 2005, 1,734 women were killed in the name of honor;

Whereas, This number represents only those cases reported in the media; in reality, the number could be much larger;

Whereas, The isolation and fear of women living under such threats are compounded by the fact that many people living in Pakistan and South Asia see violence against women as acceptable and even justifiable;

Whereas, The killers are rarely prosecuted, and when the men are convicted, they traditionally receive light sentences, reinforcing the view that men can kill their female relatives with virtual immunity; and



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Whereas, The practice of honor killing and other violations of women's human rights can be brought to an end only through knowledge; this knowledge will enable the world to speak out against such atrocities and to condemn them and those who bear the responsibility: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the Senate concurring:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly recognizes the efforts of Rafia Zakaria to promote human rights principles, gender equality, and justice for women in Pakistan and South Asia and to empower women around the world through knowledge.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to Rafia Zakaria and the Asian-American Network Against Abuse of Human Rights.



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